



Security Council

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Letter dated 26 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour, in my capacity as representative of the State chairing the one hundred and fiftieth ordinary session of the Council of the League of Arab States at the ministerial level, to attach herewith the communiqué issued by the ninth meeting of the quadripartite Arab ministerial committee tasked with following up on the crisis with Iran and means of responding to Iran's interference in the internal affairs of Arab States (see annex), held on the margins of the Council session on Tuesday, 11 September 2018.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Omer Dahab Fadl **Mohamed**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 26 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué issued by the ninth meeting of the quadripartite Arab ministerial committee tasked with following up on the crisis with Iran and means of responding to Iran's interference in the internal affairs of Arab States.

The quadripartite Arab ministerial committee tasked with following up on the crisis with Iran and means of responding to Iran's interference in the internal affairs of Arab States — consisting of the United Arab Emirates (Chair), the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Arab Republic of Egypt and His Excellency the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States — held its ninth meeting at the headquarters of the Secretariat of the League of Arab States on 11 September 2018, on the margins of the one hundred and fiftieth ordinary session of the Council of the League at the ministerial level.

The ministerial committee discussed developments in the crisis with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the course of Arab relations with Iran, and means of responding to Iran's interference in the internal affairs of Arab States. It considered the report prepared by the Secretariat, and reviewed the most egregious negative statements directed by Iranian officials against Arab States. It also considered the report of the United Arab Emirates on Iran's activities and interventions in the internal affairs of Arab States, and the steps taken to address such interventions.

The ministerial committee condemned continued Iranian interference in the internal affairs of Arab States. It deplored the provocative statements being directed by Iranian officials against Arab States. The committee also expressed deep concern about sectarian incitement being perpetrated by Iran within Arab States, including Iran's support for armed terrorist militias in certain Arab States, which was causing chaos and instability in the region, thereby threatening Arab national security and undermining regional and international efforts to resolve regional issues and crises. It called on Iran to desist from such behaviour.

The committee also condemned continued support by Iran for acts of terrorism and subversion in the Arab States, including continued launches of ballistic missiles from Yemeni territory into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 2216 (2015), which provides for the need to refrain from arming the militias. The committee affirmed its support for the steps taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain to address those hostile acts and to maintain security and stability.

The committee deplored and condemned Iranian acts of sabotage and intervention in the internal affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and commended that Kingdom's efforts to combat terrorism. The Committee also welcomed the report submitted by the Kingdom of Bahrain on Iranian involvement in supporting the so-called Ashtar Brigades, a terrorist group headquartered in Iran that is working to undermine security and stability in the Kingdom. That report implicates Iran in arming that group with weapons and explosives, financing them, and providing them with training in camps sponsored by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and the Hizbullah terrorist organization.

The Committee also welcomed decisions by a number of States to classify the so-called Ashtar Brigades, active in Bahrain and headquartered in Iran, as a terrorist organization, and to list several of its members as terrorists. That position reflects the

determination of the world's States to address terrorism at the regional and international levels, and to confront anyone who supports, incites or sympathizes with it; it also constitutes an expression of support for the efforts and measures taken by the Kingdom of Bahrain to promote security, stability and peace.

The committee commended the security agencies of the Kingdom of Bahrain for managing to frustrate a number of terrorist acts and conspiracies, and for apprehending 116 terrorists belonging to a terrorist organization that the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and its external arms, the Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and Hizbullah terrorist organizations, had worked to create, finance, train and supply with weapons and explosives so that its members could carry out a series of major terrorist acts that would undermine the security, stability and economy of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The committee denounced continued Iranian and Turkish intervention in the Syrian crisis, which had serious repercussions for the future of Syria and its sovereignty, security, stability, national unity and territorial integrity, and stressed that such intervention was detrimental to efforts to resolve the Syrian crisis through peaceful means in accordance with the outcomes of the first Geneva conference.

The committee expressed solidarity with the decision by the Kingdom of Morocco to cut off diplomatic relations with Iran because of dangerous and unacceptable attempts by the latter and its ally the terrorist Hizbullah organization to interfere in the internal affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco by arming and training operatives to threaten the security and stability of Morocco, yet one more manifestation of Iran's tactic of undermining regional security and stability.

The committee also expressed its condemnation of direct Iranian threats to international maritime navigation in the Arab Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, as well as threats to international navigation in the Red Sea by Iran's proxies in the region, including the recent attack by the terrorist Houthi militia on a Saudi Arabian oil tanker in the Bab al-Mandab strait, which constituted a violation of the principles of international law.

The committee expressed its concern about the Iranian nuclear programme, including regarding the genuineness of Iran's commitment to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and questioned the capacity of that agreement to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons in the future, particularly in the light of Iran's hostile policies in the region. The committee underscored the need to monitor developments in that regard.

The committee condemned Iran's continued development of its ballistic missile programme and provision of missiles to the Houthis. It condemned the launch of Iranian-made missiles during attacks by the terrorist Houthi militia against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including the launch of 190 ballistic missiles at several Saudi Arabian cities, including the capital Riyadh, which had earned widespread Arab and international condemnation. The committee stressed that such attacks constituted a major threat to security and stability in the region. It also stressed the need for Iran to comply with the provisions of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) regarding its missile programme, and the need for an effective mechanism for verification of implementation of the agreement, including inspection, monitoring, and prompt and effective reinstatement of sanctions should Iran violate its obligations under the agreement. The committee also stressed the importance of Iran acceding to all nuclear safety instruments and paying heed to environmental problems in the region, and the provisions of that resolution prohibiting Iran from conducting ballistic tests or developing long-range missiles or missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads.